

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. In addition to extension of runway, the apron is being expanded. Necessary civil works have been completed and electrical works are in progress.

Brahmaputra Board

844. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the North-Eastern States covered under Brahmaputra Board for comprehensive water management and flood control measures; and

(b) the plan of the Government for water management and flood control measures in the States not covered by Brahmaputra Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) Out of the seven North-Eastern States, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya are completely covered under comprehensive water management and flood control measures of Brahmaputra Board. Other States Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland are partly covered under the jurisdiction of the Brahmaputra Board. The Brahmaputra Board was established by the Union Government to provide for the planning and integrated implementation of measures for the control of flood and bank erosion in both the Brahmaputra and Barak valleys.

(b) The measures for water management and flood control in the States not covered by Brahmaputra Board are planned, investigated and implemented by the concerned State Governments as these are primarily the responsibilities of the State Governments.

Expenditure Tax on Hotel Tariff

845. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to exempt the foreign tourists from expenditure tax on hotel tariff;

(b) if so, whether such tax is proposed to be levied on other items of expenditure like food and all other services; and

(c) if so, the reasons for taking such decision and the impact on common man as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) The payment of hotel bills by foreign tourists is taxable under the Expenditure-tax Act, 1967. There is no proposal

to exempt the foreign tourists to pay tax under the aforementioned Act.

(b) Tax is levied on any expenditure incurred in a hotel where the room tariff is Rs 1200/- or more per day per person.

(c) The Expenditure-tax was introduced mainly for those who could afford to patronize high class hotels.

Schemes for Minority Students

846. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various schemes for the welfare of the students of minority community; and

(b) the number of students benefitted during the last two years and so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) The following schemes are in operation for the welfare of the students of minority community.

- (i) Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities;
- (ii) Scheme of Financial Assistance for Modernisation of Madarsa Education.
- (iii) Scheme of Community Polytechnics;
- (iv) Scheme for Coaching Classes for Competitive Examinations for Weaker Sections amongst Educationally Backward Minority Community; and
- (v) Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching Classes run by the Ministry of Welfare.

Details are given in the Statement-I attached.

Besides the above schemes which are exclusively operating for welfare of Minorities, the following schemes are also contributing to educational development of Minorities:

- (i) Non-formal Education Centres;
- (ii) Scheme of Eradication of illiteracy, TLC;
- (iii) Scheme of Mid-day Meals;
- (iv) District Primary Education Programme (DPEP); and
- (v) Scheme of Operation Black Board.

(b) The number of students State-wise benefitted under the scheme of Coaching Classes for weaker section amongst educationally backward minority communities and pre-examination coaching institute during the last two years is given in Statement-II attached. The Scheme of Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities & Financial Assistance for Modernisation of Madarasas were introduced during the year 1993-94. The impact of these schemes on students of minority community has not been assessed.

Statement I

Scheme of Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities

Objective

This central scheme was launched in May, 1993 with the objective of providing basic infrastructure and facilities in areas of concentration of educationally backward minorities which do not have adequate provision for elementary and secondary education.

The scheme now extends to 331 blocks of concentration of educationally backward minorities in 13 States and 3 UTs as identified by the Ministry of Welfare.

Modernisation of Madarsa (Maktab)

The Objective of the scheme is to encourage traditional institutions like Madarasas and Maktabas by giving financial assistance to introduce Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, Hindi and English in their curriculum. Assistance is given to Madarasas and Maktabas for activities which contribute to this objective. The scheme will help to provide opportunities to students of these institutions to acquire education comparable to that in the national education system. It is implemented through State Governments/Union Territories.

Scheme of Community Polytechnics

The Scheme of Community Polytechnics (CPs) was instituted in the year 1978-79 under Direct Central assistance schemes of G.O.I. Initially, 36 existing polytechnics were selected to carry out activities of Community Polytechnics for the benefit of rural society, the scheme lays stress on input of technical education to rural people and disadvantaged group including women through non-formal need based short term training in skill oriented technical/vocational trades with no precondition of age, sex or qualification suitable to the needs of unemployed/under employed youth/school/college dropouts including minorities and weaker sections of society.

Scheme of Coaching Classes for Competitive Examinations for Weaker Sections amongst the Educationally Backward Minority Communities

Scheme of Coaching Classes for competitive examinations for weaker sections amongst the educationally backward minorities is being conducted by the UGC. The Scheme was formulated in 1984, revised in 1988 and revamped in 1994.

At present there are 59 colleges and 22 universities functioning under this scheme as on date.

Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching

Pre-examination coaching is being implemented since 1992-93. The target group under the scheme consists of minorities and Backward Classes subject to an income ceiling of Rs. 24,000/- p.a. The basic objective of the scheme is to prepare the candidates to compete on equal terms with others in respect of recruitment tests for public employment and entrance examinations for admission to professional courses.

Statement II

Number of Students benefitted under the scheme of coaching classes for competitive examination for weaker sections amongst the Educationally Backward Minorities during the last two years

Name of States/UTs	1995	1996
Andhra Pradesh	*	39
Asaam	82	15
Bihar	145	110
Delhi	111	237
Gujarat	36	5
Jammu & Kashmir	*	2
Karnataka	403	268
Kerala	1389	1835
Maharashtra	*	*
Madhya Pradesh	85	226
Punjab	60	64
Tamil Nadu	*	38
Uttar Pradesh	1865	1744
West Bengal	101	59

*Information not available.

*Number of Students benefitted under the scheme
of pre-examination coaching during the
last two years State-wise*

State/UT	No. of Students Coached	
	1995-96	1996-97
Andhra Pradesh	640	80
Bihar	160	—
Karnataka	80	—
Madhya Pradesh	160	—
Maharashtra	80	—
Manipur	40	80
Orissa	200	80
Rajasthan	80	—
Tamil Nadu	40	—
Uttar Pradesh	1040	320
Delhi	960	80

BOT Scheme

847. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish International Airports in the country under Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) scheme;

(b) if so, by when and where; and

(c) the share of investment by the Union Government, States and private parties?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c) A comprehensive Civil Aviation policy is being formulated which would give definite guidelines on the adoption of various models including BOO, BOT, BOOT, BOLT, etc. for airport development.

**Committee for Private Sector participation in
Development of National Highways**

848. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a high power committee to evolve standard BOT terms for private sector participation in development of National highways;

(b) if so, the main functions, composition and terms of reference of the Committee;

(c) whether his Ministry has directed the NHAI to propose projects under BOT;

(d) if so, the number of projects proposed by NHAI under this scheme; and

(e) the time by which the work on these projects is likely to be started with locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The High Powered Committee constituted by the Government comprises of:—

- (i) Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport—Chairman.
- (ii) Secretary (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance.
- (iii) Secretary (DEA), Ministry of Finance.
- (iv) Secretary (Legal Affairs).
- (v) Advisor (Transport), Planning Commission.
- (vi) Director General (Road Development) & Addl. Secretary.
- (vii) Chairman, NHAI (National Highways Authority of India).
- (viii) Member, NHAI (Shri R.L. Koul)—Member-Secretary.

The Committee would be responsible for:—

- (i) evolving standard BOT terms and conditions including fair and equitable allocation of risks between the participants, and the detailed regulatory framework for BOT projects; and
- (ii) to address and resolve issues that arise in the course of implementation of BOT projects.

(c) NHAI has, *inter-alia*, been assigned the responsibility of implementing BOT projects on National Highways.

(d) and (e) NHAI is conducting the feasibility studies for several NH projects, based on the outcome of which some could be taken up on BOT basis.

Promotion of Yoga

849. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central schemes for promotion of Yoga in the country;

(b) the financial assistance provided to each of the NGOs in Maharashtra during the last three years under the schemes;